

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-07 /078 W
-----111912Z 128015 /42

P 111530Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4992
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY
USMISSION BERLIN PRIORITY UNN
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 3262

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR FR GW UR US WB
SUBJECT: BERLIN: SOVIET REPLY TO ALLIED JANUARY 11 PROTEST

REF: MOSCOW 3189

1. IN CHECKING WITH FRENCH AND BRITISH EMBASSIES, WE
HAVE CONFIRMED THAT TEXT (REFTEL) OF THREE SOVIET NOTES
WAS SAME AND THAT KVITSKINSKIY'S ORAL COMMENTS FOLLOWING
READING OF TEXT DID NOT DEPART FROM ESSENTIALS OF POINTS
MADE IN TEXT.

2. IN HIS COMMENTS TO KVITSINSKIY, DCM MENTIONED THAT
STEPS WHICH SEEM DESIGNED TO CHANGE STATUS OF GREATER
BERLIN HAVE UNFORTUNATELY CONTINUED EVEN SINCE OUR STATE-
MENT OF JAN 11. AS EXAMPLE, HE CITED INTERRUPTION OF PUBLIC-
CATION OF "VERORDNUGSBLATT FUER GROSS BERLIN" (INCLUDING
REFERENCE TO HONECKER STATEMENT THAT IT CEASED PUBLICA-
TION) AND POINTED UP CONCERN AT THIS ATTEMPT UNILATERALLY
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TO CHANGE STATUS OF GREATER BERLIN. IN RESPONSE,
KVITSINSKIY REITERATED THAT GREATER BERLIN NO LONGER
EXISTS IN SOVIET EYES, AND THT SOVIET RESPONSE TO
WESTERN CONCERNS DOES NOT DIFFER IN APPROACH FROM WESTERN
RESPONSES TO EARLIER SOVIET PROTESTS REGARDING WHAT
SOVIETS REGARD AS VIOLATIONS OF QA IN RESPECT TO WEST
BERLIN, I.E. THAT MATTERS CITED ARE NOT VIOLATIONS. DCM,

OF COURSE, REFUSED TO ACCEPT ANALOGY.

3. BRITISH EMBASSY DID NOT MENTION ISSUE AS THEY WERE WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS POINT AND HAD IMPRESSION FCO HAD NOT MADE DECISION. FRENCH EMBASSY DID NOT RAISE IT, BELIEVING NEITHER WE NOR BRITS WOULD RAISE IT.

4. COMMENT: WE THOUGHT TONE OF KVITSINSKIY'S WRITTEN REPLY WAS QUITE STARK AND HARSH ALTHOUGH CONTENT DID NOT BREAK NEW GROUND. THIS CONTRASTED WITH HIS RELAXED MANNER BOTH IN DELIVERING NOTE AND IN SUBSEQUENT ORAL COMMENTS. BRITISH HAD IMPRESSION KVITSINSKIY WAS MAKING POINTS FOR RECORD IN VERY LOW-KEY MANNER. THEY SAW NOTHING NEW IN SUBSTANCE OF HIS REMARKS, AND FELT NOTE WAS RECAPITULATION OF HISTORICAL RECORD OF SOVIET POSITION.

5. WE WERE STRUCK BY REFERENCE TO WEST BERLIN AS "CITY" WITH A SPECIAL STATUS," BUT DO NOT KNOW IF THIS IS NEW FORMULATION. BRITISH HERE ARE ALSO CURIOUS ON THIS POINT. ALSO, KVITSINSKIY'S RESPONSE TO THE MENTION BY DCM OF THE VERORDNUNGSBLATT AND OTHER ACTIONS WAS CLEARLY A SUGGESTION THAT RECENT STEPS CONSTITUTE EASTERN RESPONSE TO WESTERN ASSURANCES TO SOVIETS THAT DEVELOPMENTS IN WEST BERLIN DO NOT AFFECT EXISTING STATUS OF WSB; A HINT THAT THIS WAS EASTERN DOSE OF THE SAME MEDICINE.

6. CONFUSION ON VERORDNUNGSBLATT MATTER HERE CAUSED PRIMARILY BY BRITISH LACK OF INSTRUCTIONS AND UNCONFIDENTIAL

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TAINTY ABOUT WHAT FCO WISHED DONE. FACT THAT MFA HERE NOTIFIED THREE ALLIES LESS THAN NINETY MINUTES BEFORE FIRST(U.S.) APPOINTMENT SET MADE COORDINATION BY PHONE NECESSARY THUS COMPLICATING MATTERS. TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MOSCOW03262
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770084-1049
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770369/aaaacirt.tel
Line Count: 102
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: dac8bab9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MOSCOW 3189
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3136212
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BERLIN: SOVIET REPLY TO ALLIED JANUARY 11 PROTEST
TAGS: PFOR, FR, GE, UR, US, WB
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/dac8bab9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009